

NEW RECORDS OF  
*ECTOBIUS LAPPONICUS* IN NORTH AMERICA  
(DICTYOPTERA: BLATTELLIDAE)<sup>1,2</sup>

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ABSTRACT: New collection records for the introduced "Dusky Cockroach" indicate that it has now extended its range through northern New England and into the maritime provinces of Canada. Adult males and nymphs, and to a lesser extent adult females, were found on low vegetation, with two new records of adult males in buildings.

In 1984 the "Dusky Cockroach," *Ectobius lapponicus* (L.), was found in southeastern New Hampshire by Chandler (1985), the first North American record of this European immigrant. A subsequent collection in eastern Vermont was noted by Nielsen (1987), and this species has now been collected several times in coastal and central New Hampshire. During a recent trip I found this species at Acadia National Park in Maine, and on Prince Edward Island for the first Canadian record of this species. It is clear that this cockroach is expanding its range, and now occurs throughout northern New England and the maritime provinces of Canada. As noted by Atkinson *et al.* (1991), the distribution of the species in Europe indicates that it could spread over much of northern North America. This note documents the range extension of this species, and includes information on its association with vegetation in North America.

This species was initially brought to my attention because several specimens were found inside a house (Chandler 1985). An additional specimen since has been found in a kitchen in Bradford, New Hampshire, and another in a motel room in Waterville, Maine. However, all other specimens have been found outside, primarily in association with herbaceous vegetation. In Europe, nymphs and adult males of the "Dusky Cockroach" are found on low vegetation, with adult females more commonly found on the ground in leaf litter (Roth and Willis 1960). Nielsen (1987) found adults moving about on flowers of wild raspberries. I found adult males and females commonly on tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare* L.) in coastal New Hampshire, with males pre-

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dominating with a sex ratio of about 2:1. Twenty-two adult males and only one adult female were taken along with 10 first and second instar nymphs when sweeping an herbaceous plant on Prince Edward Island that had not yet flowered and could not be identified. Adults were seen at or near the tops of these various plants on flowers or leaves, and when disturbed quickly dropped to the ground.



Figure 1. Collection sites of *Ectobius lapponicus*.

New records: U.S.A.: New Hampshire: Strafford Co.: 2 mi SE Durham, VI-10-1987 (2♂), VI-11-1987 (3♂), VI-14-1987 (1♂), J. F. Burger, sweep; 1 mi SW Durham, VII-14-1987 (2♂), VII-18-1988 (1♂), VIII-5-1989 (1♂), W. J. Morse, water tower. Merrimack Co.: Bradford, VI-

20-1990 (1♂), D. C. Nepreau, in kitchen. Rockingham Co.: Odiorne Point St. Park, VII-8-1990 (7♂, 2♀), D. S. Chandler, on tansy. *Maine*: York Co.: West Lebanon, VII-17/23-1990 (1♂), VI-24/30-1991 (1♂), D. W. Barry, UV trap. Kennebec Co.: Waterville, VI-15-1991 (1♂), J. D. Nielsen, in motel room. Hancock Co.: Acadia National Park, Blackwoods Cmpgd., VII-28-1991 (1♂), D. S. Chandler, ex: vegetation by road. *Vermont*: Windsor Co.: Norwich, Route 5, VI-11-1987, G. R. Nielsen, on wild raspberry flowers. *CANADA*: *Prince Edward Island*: Prince Edward Island Nat. Park, Stanhope Cmpgd., VIII-13-1991 (22♂, 1♀, 10 nymphs), D. S. Chandler, sweep.

Specimens are in the insect collections of the University of New Hampshire, the University of Vermont, and the Lyman Entomological Museum (McGill University, Quebec).

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